

JULY 2022 PROGRAMS

All Programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. Parking fees may apply depending on program location. Please follow all current COVID guidelines: [Mass.gov/COVID](https://www.mass.gov/covid). For more information please email Jesse MacDonald, Visitor Services Supervisor, at Jesse.MacDonald@mass.gov.

Sundays

VISITOR CENTER OPEN HOUSE, 12:30–2:30p.m.
Botume House Visitor Cntr., 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham
 Drop in at any time to view our permanent exhibit on the history and natural resources of the Fells, ask questions about the park or DCR, pick up a map, and meet the Fells staff.

NOTE: The visitor center will be **closed** July 3rd.

Sunday
July 10, 17, 24

OUTDOORS 101 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Greenwood Park, 176 Pond Street, Stoneham
 Want to explore the outdoors, but don't know where to start? This discussion and guided hike series is for you! Every week, we will explore different topics concerning the basics of outdoor recreation.

Includes an easy 1.5 mile hike. Intended for adults or families with little to no outdoor experience/comfort. *Dress for the weather. Wear sturdy, closed toe footwear. Bring water, bug spray, sunscreen, and a snack. Rain cancels.*

July 10: Part 1: First Steps— where to go, what to bring, and other necessary prep!

July 17: Part 2: Staying Safe— identifying natural hazards; weather, temperature, and your body; knowing your limits; and how to handle an emergency.

July 24: Part 3: Caring for the Outdoors— trail etiquette, Leave No Trace ethics, and giving back to our natural resources.

Wednesday
July 6, 27

OUT OF THE CITY & INTO THE WOODS
Hike Series, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Our evening hike series features trails easily accessible via public transportation. Best for ages 12 and up, or younger children with hiking experience. *Rain cancels.*

July 6: *Lawrence Wood and the 90mm site.* Approx. 2 miles, moderate difficulty. Meet behind Medford H.S. by the athletic fields, 489 Winthrop St, Medford. Best MBTA access: 134 bus route, Winthrop St @ Medford HS stop.

July 27: *Goodyear Ave and the eastern Cross Fells Trail.* Approx. 2 miles, moderate difficulty. Meet at the Gate 58 entrance; Cross Fells trailhead. Best MBTA access: 132 bus route, Pleasant St. @ Stone Place stop; OR Oak Grove Orange Line Station, 1/2 mile (12 minutes) from trailhead.

Thursday
July 14, 28

KIDLEIDOSCOPE, 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Botume House Visitor Center, 4 Woodland Rd, Stoneham
 For the young set who loves nature! The park interpreter will lead a preschool aged program that includes a story, craft, & walk that involves outdoor exploration. A different nature topic each session, so come every week! For Ages 3 to 6. *Meet by the picnic tables outside Botume House Visitor Center. Rain cancels.*

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Thursday
July 14, 28,
August 4

AFTER SCHOOL ADVENTURES:

Junior Rangers, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

**Botume House Visitor Cntr., 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham
(July 23rd location TBD; 10:00a.m-12:00p.m.)**

Calling all young nature lovers: learn about conservation, outdoor skills, and the value of our natural resources to become a Fells Junior Ranger! A new topic is discussed weekly.

For ages 8-12. Pre-registration is required for this program.

Space is limited to 15 participants on a first come, first served basis. Participants that attend at least 3 of the 4 sessions receive a Junior Ranger patch and certificate!

To pre-register, please email Jesse.Macdonald@mass.gov.

Friday
July 8, 15

ECOLOGY EXPLORATIONS:

UNDERSTANDING INVASIVES 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Botume House Visitor Cntr., 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham

Our forests are threatened every day by invaders from across the globe— invasive species! This two-part hike series will introduce the history, ecology, and management issues surrounding invasives. We will learn hands-on how to identify specific species that are established in the Fells, and discuss the techniques used to control them. *All ages. Approx. 1.5 miles on easy terrain. Rain cancels.*

Part 1— 07/08: Invasive plants in the Fells (the “Big Six”)

Part 2— 07/15: Insects, trees, “potential” invasives, and a history of management techniques— the good, bad, and ugly!

Friday
July 29

TRAILS THRU TIME History Hikes:

Medford’s Gypsy Moth War, 2:00–3:30p.m.

Lawrence Wood, 489 Winthrop St, Medford.

In 1869, one of the most destructive invasive insects in America—the Gypsy Moth—escaped from a Medford home, making the Fells the front line in a decades-long battle to save New England’s forests. Hear the fascinating story of the ingenious, ill-advised, and bizarre methods used to combat the infestation, Medford’s first mayor Gen. Samuel Lawrence and his private moth-fighting force, and how the Fells was nearly lost completely to this invasive species. *Meet behind Medford H.S. at the Mustang Loop trailhead, across from Bistro 489.*

All ages. Approx. 2-2.5 miles; moderate terrain. Rain cancels.

Saturday
July 2, 16, 30

FELLS SERVICE SATURDAYS, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Location and focus varies

Help to keep the Fells beautiful, clean, and healthy! A different location and volunteer opportunity each week. Begins with 30-minute conservation or ecology discussion. Comfort with outdoor work and hand tools strongly suggested.

Best for ages 8 and up. “Drop-in’s” are welcome, but RSVP is appreciated. Please RSVP to Jesse.Macdonald@mass.gov. *Rain cancels.*

July 2 & 30: Jerry Jingle Rd., corner of E. Border Rd. and Fellsway E., Malden. Invasive plants/Japanese knotweed cut. Street parking available on E. Border Rd. northbound side.

July 16: Location TBD: Graffiti cleanup project

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SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Saturday
July 9

NATURE HIKE: HAWK WATCH!, 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.
Lawrence Wood, behind Medford H.S., 489 Winthrop St, Medford.

A community favorite returns to the Fells! Join us on a search for some of the birds of prey that make the Fells their home. Session begins with a brief primer on behavior and techniques for identifying different raptor species.

Binoculars are strongly recommended (limited pairs available to lend). Bring water, bug spray, sunblock, and a snack.

Please RSVP to Jesse.Macdonald@mass.gov.

Approx. 3 miles, moderate difficulty with some rocky terrain. Best for ages 8 and up. Rain cancels.

Wednesday
July 13

FULL BUCK MOON HIKE, 8:00-10:30p.m.

Bellevue Pond Parking Area., 24 S. Border Rd., Medford

Join our park interpreter and rangers for a hike to Wright's Tower under the full moon and experience the nocturnal life of the forest! Starts with a 30-minute talk on the astronomy, lore, and ecology of the full moon. Bring water, bug spray, a flashlight/headlamp (red lights recommended), and appropriate clothing for cooler nighttime temperatures.

Pre-registration required. Limited to 30 participants.

Please RSVP to Jesse.Macdonald@mass.gov.

Approx. 2 miles, moderate terrain. Best for ages 12 and up (or younger children comfortable with darkness). Rain cancels.

Wednesday
July 20

ALL ABOUT BATS with DCR Biologist Elise Stanmyer, 8:00-10:00p.m.

Botume House Visitor Cntr., 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham

Join DCR's bat expert Elise Stanmyer to learn more about these amazing mammals, the crucial role they play in our ecosystems, and the recent threats that have driven many species very close to extinction. The evening begins with a 30-40 minute presentation on bats inside the Botume visitor center, and is followed by a night hike around Spot Pond to locate and observe some bats in their natural habitat.

Pre-registration required. Limited to 30 participants.

Please RSVP to Jesse.Macdonald@mass.gov.

Approx. 2 miles, easy terrain. Best for ages 8 and up (or younger children comfortable with darkness). Rain cancels.

Sunday
July 31

FAMILY NATURE HIKE: GROWING WILD FOR POLLINATORS, 9:00-10:30am

Botume House Visitor Cntr., 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham

An easy paced, family-friendly hike suitable for younger nature lovers! This week's hike will explore the pollinators that make the Fells their home, and discuss how these creatures are essential to a healthy forest. We will explore both our cultivated pollinator garden and the wild meadows on Spot Pond. Hike is a short, ~1-mile route with frequent stops to observe the nature around us. Best for ages 4 and up. *Rain cancels.*